APR 13 2004 ST

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of) Group Art Unit N/A
)
Kenneth E. Byrd and)
Hancel Renae Wright) N/A, Examiner
)
) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
Serial No. 10/748,793) I hereby certify that this correspondence was deposited
	with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop IDS, Commissioner
Filed December 31, 2003) for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-
For MULTI-CHAMBER OIL BOOM) Cighter (delon
VALVE	Cynthia M. Wilson
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Sir,

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, which encourages the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants submit this paper to introduce art that they wish to have the Examiner consider, or to introduce art in compliance with their duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

The Applicants wish to introduce art having some relevance to the present application, which has been listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449. This form include two (2) U.S. patents, and eight (8) non patent literature references.

No representation is made that a specific search has been made by the Applicants, that the information is material to the claimed subject matter, that the information is non-cumulative, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicants do not admit that any of the information they have provided is necessarily prior to their invention. Any question that may arise regarding priority of a specific reference shall be resolved during prosecution. Copies of the above-identified documents are enclosed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a).

The enclosed document is being submitted for the express purpose of providing the Patent and Trademark Office with the opportunity to make an evaluation and to arrive at an independent assessment of materiality of the document to the examination of this application. The Examiner is requested to disregard any markings on the documents. Markings on the documents should not be regarded as necessarily pointing out the portions of the documents regarded by the Applicants as relevant to the subject application.

Based upon the differences between the Applicants' invention as compared to the teachings and disclosures of the art provided, it is the Applicants' belief that their invention is neither anticipated nor suggested by the references. In the event further clarification of the art may be deemed necessary, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call from the Examiner. Should the Examiner hold a contrary opinion regarding relevance of any of the document discussed herein, it will readily be reconsidered in light of any rejection that may be made.

Applicants respectfully requests that the information cited be made of record in the subject case. In the event a fee required for the filing of this document is missing or insufficient, the undersigned attorney hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0987.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Attorney for Applicants

PTO/SB/08B (08-03)
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known			
Substitut	te for form 1443/F10			Application Number	10/748,793
INF	ORMATION	DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	December 31, 2003
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		First Named Inventor	Kenneth E. Byrd		
	(Use as many she	ote se n	ococcand	Art Unit	N/A
	Ose as many sine	ets as n	ecessary)	Examiner Name	N/A
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	ABR.P.EF0101A

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
✓		World Catalog of Oil Spill Response Products; Robert Schulze (Editor); 5th Edition (1995); Kepner Plastics Fabricators, Inc. entry; pgs. 1-247 and 248	
J		World Catalog of Oil Spill Response Products; Robert Schulze (Editor); 5th Edition (1995); Oil Stop Inc. entry; pgs 1-252 and 253	
		World Catalog of Oil Spill Response Products; Robert Schulze (Editor); 5th Edition (1995); RO-Clean International entry; pg 1-257	
		World Catalog of Oil Spill Response Products; Robert Schulze (Editor); 5th Edition (1995); Vikoma entry; pgs 1-264 through 267	
		World Catalog of Oil Spill Response Products; Robert Schulze (Editor); 5th Edition (1995); Engineered Fabrics Corporation entry; pgs 1-235 and 236	
٧'		Oil Stop Inc. boom information form http://www.oilstop.com, http://www.oilstop.com/inflatablebooms.htm and http://www.oilstop.com/autoboom.htm	
		RO-Clean International boom information from http://www.ro-cleandesmi.com/contary-boom3500.html	
		Vikoma boom information from http://www.vikoma.com	

Examiner	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Date	
Signature		Considered	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known		
		Application Number	10/748,793	
IN	IFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	December 31, 2003	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		First Named Inventor	Kenneth E. Byrd	
		Art Unit	N/A	
	(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	N/A	
Sheet	1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	ABR.P.EF0101A	

Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where
Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 5,022,785	06/11/91	Goans	
		^{US-} 5,346,329	09/13/94	Goans et al.	
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		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	MENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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